

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: Dirk R. Bass
Peter JOHNSTONE)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 1797
Application No.: 10/587,383)	
	:	Confirmation No.: 7289
Filed: December 20, 2006)	
	:	
For: PANEL CONSTRUCTIONS AND)	
ASSEMBLIES MADE THEREFROM	:	March 23, 2010

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
AND ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated February 23, 2010, imposing a restriction requirement in the above-identified case.

The Examiner has required election of a single disclosed invention for prosecution on the merits in this case. The Examiner alleged four patentably distinct inventions:

Group I - claims 1-2, 4-10, 12, 15-16, 29-30, 34, 38, 54, 60 and 71-76,
drawn to a panel or object construction;

Group II - claim 27, drawn to an evaporation restrictor;

Group III - claim 28, drawn to an desalination apparatus; and

Group IV - claim 64 and 69, drawn to an apparatus.

Applicant notes that the Office Action identifies claims 1-16, 38 and 71-74 as Group I. However, pursuant to a telephone call with Examiner Bass on March 18, 2010, he agreed that Group I includes claims 29-30, 34, 38, 54 and 60. Further, claims 3, 11, 13